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EXAMINER	
MEW, KEVIN D	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2616	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/19/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/643,005	BORDOGNA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kevin Mew	2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *18 August 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *18 August 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *8/18/03,12/10/04*.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Claim Objections

1. Claims 3, 15 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In line 1 claim 3, replace "said a frequency" with "a frequency."

In line 1, claim 15, replace "said a frequency" with "a frequency."

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 4-6, 10-11, 13, 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Treadaway et al. (USP 7,002,941).

Regarding claim 1, Treadaway discloses a method for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1), said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between

each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of packets over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network (receiving packet data over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37); and

providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract), wherein a size of said egress inter-packet gap is adjusted to compensate for said frequency offset (adjusting an inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet data packets to compensate for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53).

Regarding claim 4, Treadaway discloses the method of claim 1, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is statically configured based on said frequency offset (col. 4, lines 30-53).

Regarding claim 5, Treadaway discloses the method of claim dynamically adjusted based on a fill transport network 1, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is level of a buffer associated with an egress port of said (the size of the inter-packet gap is a level of the amount of space available in the received packet buffer, col. 4, lines 48-50).

Regarding claim 6, Treadaway discloses the method of claim 1, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is dynamically adjusted to prevent a buffer associated with an egress port of said transport network from overflowing (adjusting the size of the inter-packet gap to avoid overflowing in the receive buffer, col. 21, lines 43-54).

Regarding claim 10, Treadaway discloses a method for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1), said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said method comprising the steps of:

buffering a plurality of packets received over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network in an egress buffer (buffering in the packet buffer for packet data received over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37);

monitoring a fill level of said egress buffer (monitoring the amount of space available in a packet buffer); and

providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract), wherein a size of said egress inter-packet gap is adjusted to compensate for said frequency offset (adjusting an inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet data packets to compensate

for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal based on the amount of space available in the packet buffer, col. 4, lines 30-53).

Regarding claim 11, Treadaway discloses the method of claim 10, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is adjusted to prevent said egress buffer from overflowing (adjusting the size of the inter-packet gap to avoid overflowing in the receive buffer, col. 21, lines 43-54).

Regarding claim 13, Treadaway discloses an apparatus for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1), said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said apparatus comprising:

a port (terminal 100, Fig. 1) for receiving a plurality of packets over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network (receiving packet data over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37); and

means (wireless link, 102, Fig. 1) for providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract), wherein a size of said egress inter-packet gap is adjusted to compensate for said frequency offset (adjusting an inter-packet gap for the Fast

Ethernet data packets to compensate for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53).

Regarding claim 16, Treadaway discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is statically configured based on said frequency offset (col. 4, lines 30-53).

Regarding claim 17, Treadaway discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is dynamically adjusted based on a fill level of a buffer associated with an egress port of said transport network (the size of the inter-packet gap is dynamically adjusted based on a level of the amount of space available in the received packet buffer, col. 4, lines 48-50).

Regarding claim 18, Treadaway discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is dynamically adjusted to prevent a buffer associated with an egress port of said transport network from overflowing (adjusting the size of the inter-packet gap to avoid overflowing in the receive buffer, col. 21, lines 43-54).

Regarding claim 19, Treadaway discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said egress inter-packet gap is inserted by provider equipment between said transport network and said egress local area network (inter-packet gap is inserted as overhead in the rate control logic 250

located in MAC of terminal 100, col. 12, lines 53-67, Figs. 1, 3-4; terminal 100 is between router/switch and MAN network 102, Fig. 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2-3, 7-9, 12, 14-15, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Treadaway et al. in view of Gavin (USP 6,937,624).

Regarding claim 2, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 1 above, except fails to explicitly show the method of claim 1, wherein a frequency of said ingress local area network exceeds a frequency of said egress local area network and said providing step further comprises the step of reducing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

However, Gavin discloses that when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than that of the receiver, the receiver would have to discard more bytes received from the transmitter than it normally would when the system clock frequencies on both sides are the same, which means that the size of the inter-packet gaps or idle bytes will decrease because the receiver would have to discard the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps without using real or active data constituting part of a data packet (col. 1, lines 45-67, col. 2, lines 1-7). Hence, the discarding of idle bytes means the size of inter-packet gaps at the receiver would decrease.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the frequency compensation method of Treadaway with the teaching of Gavin in reducing the size of the inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than the system clock frequency of the receiver such that a frequency of said ingress local area network exceeds a frequency of said egress local area network and said providing step further comprises the step of reducing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to a receiver to avoid discarding the active data constituting part of a data packet by discarding the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps instead in order to ensure a correct operation.

Regarding claim 3, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 1 above, except fails to explicitly show the method of claim 1, wherein a frequency of said egress local area network exceeds a frequency of said ingress local area network and said providing step further comprises the step of increasing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

However, Gavin teaches that when the system clock frequency of the receiver is greater than that of the transmitter, the receiver would receive more bytes of inter-packet gaps from the transmitter than it normally would when the system clock frequencies on both sides are the same, which means that the size of the inter-packet gaps or idle bytes will increase because the transmitter is now lagging the receiver (col. 1, lines 45-67, col. 2, lines 1-7, 44-65). Hence, the reception of more bytes of inter-packet gaps means the size of inter-packet gaps at the receiver would increase.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the frequency compensation method of Treadaway with the teaching of Gavin in increasing the size of the inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency of the receiver is greater than the system clock frequency of the transmitter such that a frequency of said egress local area network exceeds a frequency of said ingress local area network and said providing step further comprises the step of increasing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to allow the receiver to maintain the minimum number of bytes of inter-packet gaps and discard the additional bytes inter-packet gaps received.

Regarding claim 7, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 1 above, except fails to explicitly show the method of claim 1, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting idle symbols from an extended inter-packet gap.

However, Gavin discloses that when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than that of the receiver, the receiver would have to discard more bytes received from the transmitter than it normally would when the system clock frequencies on both sides are the same, which means that the size of the inter-packet gaps or idle bytes will decrease because the receiver would have to discard the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps without using real or active data constituting part of a data packet (col. 1, lines 45-67, col. 2, lines 1-7). Hence, the discarding of idle bytes means the size of inter-packet gaps at the receiver would decrease.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the frequency compensation method of Treadaway with the teaching of Gavin in reducing the size of the inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency

of the transmitter is greater than the system clock frequency of the receiver such that said size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting idle symbols from an extended inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to a receiver to avoid discarding the active data constituting part of a data packet by discarding the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps instead in order to ensure a correct operation.

Regarding claim 8, Treadaway discloses a method for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1), said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of packets over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network (receiving packet data over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37); and

providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract).

Treadaway does not explicitly show a size of said egress inter-packet gap is less than a size of said ingress inter-packet gap.

However, Gavin discloses that when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than that of the receiver, the receiver would have to discard more bytes received from the transmitter than it normally would when the system clock frequencies on both sides are the same, which means that the size of the inter-packet gaps or idle bytes will decrease because the receiver would have to discard the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps without using real or active data constituting part of a data packet (col. 1, lines 45-67, col. 2, lines 1-7). Hence, the discarding of idle bytes means the size of inter-packet gaps at the receiver would decrease.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the frequency compensation method of Treadaway with the teaching of Gavin in reducing the size of the inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than the system clock frequency of the receiver such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is less than a size of said ingress inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than the system clock frequency of the receiver.

The motivation to do so is to a receiver to avoid discarding the active data constituting part of a data packet by discarding the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps instead in order to ensure a correct operation.

Regarding claim 9, Treadaway discloses the method of claim 8, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is statically configured based on an expected frequency offset (col. 4,

lines 30-53).

Regarding claim 12, Treadaway discloses a method for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1), said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of packets over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network (receiving packet data over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37); and

providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract), wherein a size of said egress inter-packet gap is adjusted to compensate for said frequency offset (adjusting an inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet data packets to compensate for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53).

buffering a plurality of packets received over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network in an egress buffer (buffering in the packet buffer for packet data received over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37);

writing said plurality of packets from said first egress buffer in a second egress buffer at a rate associated with said transport network (writing the packet data from the packet buffer to a packet retriever according to a second clock signal, wherein the frequency of the second clock signal is lower than a frequency of a first clock signal) together with an inter-packet gap separating each packet (together with inter-packet gap, col. 4, lines 30-53); and

providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract).

Treadaway does not explicitly show a size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting one or more idle symbols from said inter-packet gap.

However, Gavin discloses that when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than that of the receiver, the receiver would have to discard more bytes received from the transmitter than it normally would when the system clock frequencies on both sides are the same, which means that the size of the inter-packet gaps or idle bytes will decrease because the receiver would have to discard the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps without using real or active data constituting part of a data packet (col. 1, lines 45-67, col. 2, lines 1-7). Hence, the discarding of idle bytes means the size of inter-packet gaps at the receiver would decrease.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the frequency compensation method of Treadaway with the teaching of Gavin in reducing the size of the inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than the system clock frequency of the receiver such that said size of

said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting idle symbols from an extended inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to a receiver to avoid discarding the active data constituting part of a data packet by discarding the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps instead in order to ensure a correct operation.

Regarding claim 14, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 13 above, except fails to explicitly show the apparatus of claim 13, wherein a frequency of said ingress local area network exceeds a frequency of said egress local area network and said means for providing further comprises means for reducing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

However, Gavin discloses that when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than that of the receiver, the receiver would have to discard more bytes received from the transmitter than it normally would when the system clock frequencies on both sides are the same, which means that the size of the inter-packet gaps or idle bytes will decrease because the receiver would have to discard the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps without using real or active data constituting part of a data packet (col. 1, lines 45-67, col. 2, lines 1-7). Hence, the discarding of idle bytes means the size of inter-packet gaps at the receiver would decrease.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the frequency compensation method of Treadaway with the teaching of Gavin in reducing the size of the inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than the system clock frequency of the receiver such that a frequency

of said ingress local area network exceeds a frequency of said egress local area network and said providing step further comprises the step of reducing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to a receiver to avoid discarding the active data constituting part of a data packet by discarding the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps instead in order to ensure a correct operation.

Regarding claim 15, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 13 above, except fails to explicitly show the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said frequency of said egress local area network exceeds a frequency of said ingress local area network and wherein means for providing further comprises means for increasing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

However, Gavin teaches that when the system clock frequency of the receiver is greater than that of the transmitter, the receiver would receive more bytes of inter-packet gaps from the transmitter than it normally would when the system clock frequencies on both sides are the same, which means that the size of the inter-packet gaps or idle bytes will increase because the transmitter is now lagging the receiver (col. 1, lines 45-67, col. 2, lines 1-7, 44-65). Hence, the reception of more bytes of inter-packet gaps means the size of inter-packet gaps at the receiver would increase.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the frequency compensation method of Treadaway with the teaching of Gavin in increasing the size of the inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency of the receiver is greater than the system clock frequency of the transmitter such that a frequency

of said egress local area network exceeds a frequency of said ingress local area network and said providing step further comprises the step of increasing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to allow the receiver to maintain the minimum number of bytes of inter-packet gaps and discard the additional bytes inter-packet gaps received.

Regarding claim 20, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 13 above, except fails to explicitly show the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting idle symbols from an extended inter-packet gap.

However, Gavin discloses that when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than that of the receiver, the receiver would have to discard more bytes received from the transmitter than it normally would when the system clock frequencies on both sides are the same, which means that the size of the inter-packet gaps or idle bytes will decrease because the receiver would have to discard the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps without using real or active data constituting part of a data packet (col. 1, lines 45-67, col. 2, lines 1-7). Hence, the discarding of idle bytes means the size of inter-packet gaps at the receiver would decrease.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the frequency compensation method of Treadaway with the teaching of Gavin in reducing the size of the inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than the system clock frequency of the receiver such that said size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting idle symbols from an extended inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to a receiver to avoid discarding the active data constituting part of a data packet by discarding the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps instead in order to ensure a correct operation.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Mew whose telephone number is 571-272-3141. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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